

Patent
111792-005.UTL
(Formerly VMATRIX.002A)

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for use by a service provider for providing a secure communication network to provide video consultations between a client and a consultant comprising:

electronically verifying the identity of a client via a communication network;

electronically providing to the client a user agreement which limits the liability of the service provider through the communication network;

receiving an electronic message from the client via said communication network indicating consent to said agreement and recording the client's assent to the agreement;

providing to the client via said communication network access to a list of consultants from a consultant database module and allowing the client to search the list for a consultant in accordance with the client's requirements;

receiving a message from the client via said communication network indicating a selection of a consultant from the list of consultants;

receiving a message from the selected consultant consenting to see the client;

providing to the client and the selected consultant a real-time secure video consultation environment, within which a conference session occurs; and

calculating a fee due from the client for the conference session.

2. CANCELLED

3. CANCELLED

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, further comprising establishing a payment method with the client.

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5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein electronically verifying the identity of a client comprises authenticating a digital certificate.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the real-time secure video consultation environment is further provided to a third party.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for providing a secure communication network to facilitate consultations between a client and a consultant comprising:

a certificate module configured to provide a digital certificate having a public key and a private key to a client;

an interface module configured to electronically verify the identity of the client;

a liability limitation module configured to electronically provide a user agreement, which waives the clients right to bring any action against the system operator, to the client and to record acceptance of the agreement by the client;

a consultant database module configured to electronically provide a list of consultants to the client, from which the client selects a consultant of choice;

a consultation module configured to provide a real-time secure video communication environment, utilizing the public key and private key for encryption, within which the consultant of choice and the client confer; and

a payment module configured to calculate a fee for services rendered to the client via the consultation module.

8. CANCELLED

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 7, further comprising [a source module configured to supply code to support the consultation module] an electronic note pad module configured to selectively record communications occurring in the video communication environment for the client.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 7, [further comprising an archive module configured to preserve a record of the conference between the client and the consultant] wherein the consultation module further comprises an archive module configured to record and archive communications that occur during a consulting session for later review.

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11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 7, further comprising an electronic white board module configured to allow all parties in a session to draw pictures for each other's benefit and have these pictures appear on all screens participating in the session [provide communication between the client and the consultant].

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 7, further comprising an electronic note module configured to provide notes between the client and the consultant.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 7, further comprising an internal communication module configured to provide internal communications between parties.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 7, further comprising a secretarial module configured to provide secretarial services.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 7, further comprising an electronic mail module configured to provide electronic mail services.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 7, further comprising a language translation module configured to provide language translation services.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 7, further comprising a web-enabled device for use by the client selected from the group consisting of an individual computer, a mobile computer, a personal digital assistant, a hand-held computer, a web-enabled television, a web-enabled interactive kiosks, a web-enabled wireless communications device, a mobile web browsers, or a combination thereof.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the client accesses the consultation environment via a virtual private network.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1 wherein the consultant database module is further configured to schedule a time for the client and the consultant to enter the consultation environment.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 7 further comprising a scheduling mechanism configured to display to the client the various time slots that are currently available for the consultant of choice, allow the client to select an available time slot, inform the

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consultant of choice that the client has selected a specific time slot, make the time slot that was selected unavailable to future clients

21. (NEW) The method of claim 1 further comprising recording and storing communications that occur during a consulting session for later review.
22. (NEW) The system of claim 7 further comprising a language translation module configured to receive communications occurring in first language in the video communication environment and translate the communications into a second language.
23. (NEW) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving communications occurring in first language in the secure video consultation environment, translating the communications into a second language to create a translated communication and providing the translated communication to the client.
24. (NEW) The system of claim 7 further comprising a cyber character configured to capture communications from the client, parse the communications, evaluate the parsed communication and provide an appropriate response.